

# MERCHANT GIVES 150 SANTA CLAUS MASKS FOR CHILDREN

"Old Friend" of Little Folks Joins Forces With St. Nicholas Girl.

FUN FOR MOTHER AND TWO KIDDIES

"Christmas Sprite" Promises Youngsters Good Time and Mamma New Suit.

By SELENE ARMSTRONG, The St. Nicholas Girl.

Dear St. Nicholas Girl: I am sending to The Times office, 150 Santa Claus masks, which you may put in the Santa Claus store room until Christmas Day, when they can be distributed to little folks who will enjoy them. I might come across with some other things, too, which I will send you between now and that time. With kindest regards, I am, Sincerely yours, ISAAC GANS.

"An Old Friend," Says Santa.

"Hi, ha! an old friend," laughed Santa Claus, when he came across this letter from Isaac Gans, which, with hundreds of others from the children, arrived at The Times office early this morning.

"Suppose you put that letter at the very top of the story today, St. Nicholas Girl. Because if every man and woman who reads it will follow Mr. Gans' example, not one little child will be desolate on Christmas morning."

Santa Claus, driving his reindeer, had sped through the streets of the city this morning, driving at the time of the building just before the dawn, with its wonderful sights and sounds, had unrolled the eyes of all the sleeping children. As he went through the letters addressed to himself and the St. Nicholas Girl, he had laughed with glee.

"Ah, my dear, you must never say that the heart of the world is not kind," he said. "True, many of the children write me pitiful letters, but there is a man or woman waiting somewhere to make each little one happy. Just listen."

A Generous Offer.

And he read the following letter:

"Dear Miss St. Nicholas: Isn't this great weather for Santa Claus? The cold, though, is no doubt hard on many of the kiddies, and that is why I am asking you to help me in making some of them happy this Christmas. As you are the Washington representative of Santa Claus, you no doubt know of some little chaps who would be made really and truly happy by the application of the Christmas spirit, toys who have never had a real Christmas the sort of Christmas that brings warmth, good cheer, and well-filled stockings. Now there are the sort of children I want to know about, for I wish to take them off of Santa Claus' hands."

Suit for Mother.

"It's a secret as to what I am going to do, but we will have a jolly time if you will choose two motherless children for me to make happy. Then, too, I wonder if there isn't some little mother who would like Santa Claus to bring her a good, warm suit for Christmas? Well, if there is, she can come in for a jolly time, too."

Just tell Santa Claus to give me this information, and the little ones will be surprised. And I will write my real name and address at the bottom corner of this letter.

A Christmas Sprite.

"P. S.—A Merry Christmas to you, too."

And a big-hearted woman wrote: "I have not money to contribute, and long ago I gave away the toys with which I play. But I have a plan by which I hope to help. Each day I am going to try to get some friend interested in the toy fund, and thus I will be responsible for a sort of continued chain of contributions."

Many to Provide for.

But for every such letter received, we are getting scores from the children who wish to be provided for. In The Times are published many letters from children whose parents will fill their Christmas stockings. But our toy fund for the unfortunate little ones who will not be provided for unless you bring your offering to the St. Nicholas Girl, at The Times office.

Here are a few of the letters received today:

Dear Santa Claus: Please send me a pair of ballbearing skates. I am a girl 12 years old. I live at 1233 Huxton Place.

Thanking you very much, Yours truly, GERTRUDE MAY HORSTMAN.

December 4, 1910.

Dear Santa Claus: Will you please bring me a violin doll, a muff and a

## Santa Claus Store Room Waiting to Receive Toys

The Times publishes letters from all children who write to Santa Claus. The toys which are sent to The Times office, however, are for distribution on Christmas Day among the children who would not otherwise be provided for.

If you do not contribute toys to the fund, the St. Nicholas Girl will be as glad to receive your check. One dollar will make two children happy, and five dollars, judiciously expended, will provide for ten little ones.

The Times desires especially that the children of fortunate and happy homes shall take part in the organization of the toy fund for other children less happy. Let your boys and girls bring toys to The Times Building, where a Santa Claus storeroom is waiting to receive them.

few games, and two story books. Good-bye. From MARY HURLEY, 1207 Emerson St. N. E. P. S.—And also a blackboard.

December 6, 1910.

Dear Santa Claus: I would like to have a cap, a suit and pair of shoes and a little sleigh for my Christmas. I am eleven years old, and I go to school every day. I will close my letter now. My number is 333 V. St. I live in a house with a little boy who is writing a letter to you, and I thought I would write too. I did not get anything last Christmas. Your friend, LEROY BARRON.

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl seven years old. I live with my aunt and uncle at 2808 Georgia avenue. I will be glad for anything you bring me. CLARA VIRGINIA PHELPS.

December 6, 1910.

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl five years old, and I am going to write and tell you what I would like to have for Christmas. I want a big doll baby dressed in short clothes, and please bring brother Paul, who is two years old, a doll baby also, then he won't like you to bring me a set of dishes, have an engine horse and wagon, hoping you will not forget me, I will now say good night. Your little friend, MARGARET SMITH, 1235 Potomac St. N. W.

December 4, 1910.

Dear Santa Claus: Will you please bring me a pair of hip boots, a cowboy suit, and a baseball game and a tumbling game. That is all. Good-bye. My name is Howard Hurley. My number is 1207 Emerson St. N. E. HOWARD.

December 4, 1910.

Dear Santa Claus: I thought I would write to you to tell you now what I want. I want a Viola doll, a set of furs, a few games, red ribbons, and some games. Good-bye. FRANK K. HURLEY, 1207 Emerson St. N. E.

Hilda Wants Dishes.

My Dear Santa Claus: I am very little girl only seven years old. I would like you to bring me a set of dishes, a rocking chair and a mother goose book. That is all. Yours truly, HILDA PIERCE, 105 Bowen road, D. C.

Dear Santa Claus: I guess you think I will want a great many things, but I am a boy eight years old and I go to school too, but this is what I want you to bring me. A pair of rubber boots, a drum, a sled, a horn and a rifle, and candy and nuts in my stocking. That's a great deal to bring one boy isn't it Santa Claus, but I have a little sister named Leola, and she wants a dolly with red shoes and stockings and read coat and dishes and so on and that is all. I am yours truly, MASTER LAWRENCE MILLS, 122 M St. N. E.

Charlie Desires "Whole Lot."

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy and will be four years old two days after Christmas, and I am looking forward for Santa Claus to bring me a whole lot of nice things. Here is some of the things I want, a soldier suit, a sword, a gun, a wheelbarrow, and don't forget the candles and fruits. I have a little sister named Catherine and I hope you will not forget her. Hoping that Santa Claus will have this published in The Times. With lots of love and kisses, I remain, your good little boy, CHARLIE HOLLIS, 39 First St. N. E.

December 5, 1910.

Dear Santa Claus: I would like you to bring me a new dress, and a rain cape. I am 12 years old, and I am a very good girl. Your friend, HELEN R. FITZGERALD, 510 G street northeast.

Anna Needs Some Clothes.

Dear Santa Claus: I am nine years old, and a big girl for my age, and would like you to bring me a coat, pair shoes, some

## HONOR FOR PEARY NOW SEEMS ASSURED

Congress to Reward Him At Present Session, Say Many.

Commander Robert E. Peary, discoverer of the North Pole, is all probability will be recognized by Congress before the close of the present session.

From members of the Naval Affairs Committee of the House it is learned today that the opposition to rewarding Commander Peary by bestowing upon him the rank of rear admiral is being dissipated and that those who opposed such legislation last year now approve it.

President Taft, in his message to Congress, urges that the United States shall no longer refuse to officially recognize the great achievement of the explorer. The Secretary of the Navy has also recommended such recognition, using the verbiage of the bill introduced by Representative Bates of Pennsylvania, that "the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to place Civil Engineer Robert E. Peary, of the United States Navy, on the retired list of the corps of civil engineers, to date from April 6, 1909, with the rank of rear admiral with the highest pay of that grade under existing law."

"I am confident that the House Committee on Naval Affairs will report favorably upon this bill and that the House will pass it," said Representative Bates today. "We have delayed too long in recognizing the wonderful feat of Commander Peary's wonderful feat. The opposition to the legislation in the committee is not now so pronounced in some quarters as it once was and I believe that the bill will become a law before March 4, 1911. It ought to be especially since the President and the Secretary of the Navy have recommended it."

Christmas Makes Her Glad.

My Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl seven years old, and I am always glad when Christmas comes. I want you to please bring me an infant doll, teddy bear, and a sled. Also some candy and nuts. Your loving little girl, MARY COMPTON, 312 1/2 St. N. E.

Dear Santa Claus: I am four years old, and I can not write just yet, so my mamma has to write for me. Dear Santa Claus, please bring me a wheelbarrow, bicycle, Indian and cowboy story book, and a pair of boots. I have been a good boy. Good-bye, with a kiss for good old Santa. WALTER DANIELS, JR., 1688 Kramer St. N. E.

New Tunnel Completed.

LYNCHBURG, Va., Dec. 9.—The tunnel on the new route of the Southern railway is completed and the line will be ready for operation by January 1. The tunnel is 1,300 feet long, and cost more than \$1,000,000.

## MARRIAGE INCREASE OF SOCIETY FOLK

Washington Register for 1911 Contains Interesting Data Along This Line.

According to the Washington Social Register for 1911, 324 marriages, 165 persons socially prominent in the Capital, were married, as compared with 147 last year, while there occurred during the same period the deaths of thirty-nine women and seventy-six men as compared with forty women and fifty-seven men.

The members of prominent families, whether residing in the city, in the suburbs, temporarily in other cities of the United States or abroad, are grouped in the Register under one address with the maiden and Christian name of the married women. The names of the daughters and sons in the order of their age, and the younger children, from twelve to twenty years of age, are placed beneath their elders under the title of juniors.

In connection with the Social Register of Washington, the Locator has also been issued. This book combined under one alphabetical order the names of every person in all the social registers of the principal cities of the United States. The cities of Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Dayton are the additions this year.

Elect New Officers For N. U. Council

Maurice J. Hole today entered upon the duties of president of Census Council, National Union. Other officers elected at a meeting last night were: Vice President, H. W. Gardner; speaker, J. C. Rank; secretary, E. O. Cooper; financial secretary, W. A. Hobbitt; treasurer, A. J. Hirsch; chaplain, E. T. Boykin; under, A. J. Hirsch; sergeant, J. Bell; doorkeeper, J. Petar; trustees, W. J. Barrows, H. C. Childers, and H. Ward; delegates to the cabinet, C. B. Murray, and E. H. Maltby; delegate to the immediate relief, W. E. Broder. McKinley Council will meet tonight at Washington Hall, Washington Council at Schmidt's Hall, and National Capital Council at 216 Pennsylvania avenue southeast.

## Navy Is Manned By Native Born

The annual report of Rear Admiral Reginald F. Nicholson, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, shows that of the 20,742 enlisted men in the navy, other than petty officers, 51.51 per cent are native born, 3.45 per cent are naturalized, and 45 per cent have declared their intention of becoming American citizens. The report shows that the impression in Europe that the navy is manned largely by aliens to be false.

## Steamer Left Sinking; Crew Saved By Another

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The British steamer St. Leonards, bound from Galveston, Texas, to English ports, has been abandoned at sea in a sinking condition. Her crew has been saved by the steamer Lazio, and will be landed at St. Michael's in the Azores.

The St. Leonards was a modern ship, and screw rigged. She was built in Newcastle, England, in 1897. Her home port was Liverpool. Her registered owners are Gilmour & Co.

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Mr. Macfarlane Brockett, the famous tenor from Scotland, will be heard in some Scotch and English songs and an oratorio aria. Miss Ethel Tozier will play piano numbers, and the Misses Roberts and Koehler and Mr. Brockett will sing Leslie's trio, "Memory."

A special feature will be the first public appearance of Mrs. Carson Hill in the unique accomplishment of singing several numbers while playing her own violin obligato.

Saturday's program will be announced tomorrow.

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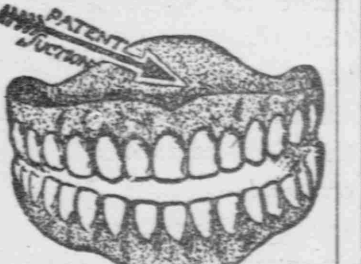
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